

## Alabama Security Regulatory Board

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## MINUTES Board Meeting Thursday, May 11, 2017

The Alabama Security Regulatory Board met on Thursday, May 11, 2017, at its office located at 2777 Zelda Road, Montgomery, Alabama, in order to conduct business. The following Board members were in attendance: Mr. Kevin Murphy (Chair), Ms. Stephanie Ortel (Vice Chair), Mr. Burke Swearingen (member), Ms. Debra Davis (member) and Sheriff Ben Bates (member). Also in attendance were Mr. Keith E. Warren (Executive Director), Mr. Cameron McEwen (Legal Counsel), Mr. Randy Barrows (Administrator), Mr. Mike James (Investigator) and Ms. Renee' Reames (Executive Secretary to Mr. Warren and serving as recording secretary). The meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m. by Mr. Murphy, Board Chair.

The meeting was advertised on the Board's web site, <u>www.asrb.alabama.gov</u>, and the Secretary of State's website, <u>www.sos.alabama.gov</u>, in accordance with requirements of the Alabama Open Meetings Act.

The minutes from January 12, 2017, Board meeting were presented for the Board's approval. A copy of the minutes was provided to the Board members prior to the meeting for their review. Ms. Ortel made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Sheriff Bates and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Murphy welcomed Mr. Billy Pritchett, legal counsel for Security Engineers (a contract-security company), to address the Board. Mr. Pritchett reported that Security Engineers had entered into a Consent Agreement with the Board on October 20, 2015, and in having served 18 months of a 24-month probationary period, requested abatement of the remaining 6 months. He explained that the company had not had any further violations and had complied with the other terms of the Agreement. Mr. McEwen indicated that the Board had the authority to consider action, and recommended that satisfactorily completion of an inspection audit be considered as a condition to the abatement. Ms. Davis made the motion to abate the remaining months of the probationary period for Security Engineers with the condition of passing a standard inspection audit. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ortel and approved by the majority of the members present, with Mr. Swearingen abstaining from vote.

Mr. Warren presented the Executive Director's Report (report on file in the official Book of Minutes), which included financial information as of April 30, 2017, along with the total

number of active licensees, consumer complaints and company inspections conducted to-date during FY 2017.

Mr. Warren also presented the Administrator's Report on activities performed by staff since the last Board meeting (report on file in the official Book of Minutes).

The Board members continued discussions from the last Board meeting about sponsoring training or identifying other needs in the contract-security community. Mr. Murphy opened the floor for comments. The Board discussed establishing training for Certified Trainers, to facilitate uniformity in training of guards. Mr. Swearingen made a motion to establish a committee to explore training standards. The motion was seconded by Ms. Davis and unanimously approved by the Board. The Board discussed soliciting representation from the security community to serve on the committee.

Mr. McEwen presented the Legal Counsel's Report to include nine (9) Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) recommendations for the Board's consideration. He explained that hearings were held for those individuals who had appealed the administrative denial of their license. A copy of the ALJ's recommendations was provided to the Board members for their review prior to the meeting. Following a review and discussion of the following cases, the Board voted:

Case 2017.007D – Ms. Ortel made the motion to accept the ALJ recommendation to deny the license. The motion was seconded by Sheriff Bates and unanimously approved by the Board.

Case 2017.009D — Sheriff Bates made the motion to accept the ALJ recommendation to grant the unarmed license and should the individual apply for an armed licensed, they must appear before the Board for consideration. The motion was seconded by Ms. Davis and unanimously approved by the Board.

Case 2017.010D - Mr. Swearingen made the motion to accept the ALJ recommendation to deny the license. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ortel and unanimously approved by the Board.

Case 2017.012D - Ms. Ortel made the motion to accept the ALJ recommendation to deny the license. The motion was seconded by Ms. Davis and unanimously approved by the Board.

Case 2017.013D - Ms. Davis made the motion to accept the ALJ recommendation to deny the license. The motion was seconded by Sheriff Bates and unanimously approved by the Board.

Case 2017.014D – Mr. Swearingen made the motion to accept the ALJ recommendation to deny the license. The motion was seconded by Sheriff Bates and unanimously approved by the Board.

Case 2017.015D – Sheriff Bates made the motion to accept the ALJ recommendation to deny the license. The motion was seconded by Ms. Davis and unanimously approved by the Board.

Case 2017.016D - Ms. Ortel made the motion to accept the ALJ recommendation to deny the license. The motion was seconded by Sheriff Bates and unanimously approved by the Board.

Case 2017.017D – Mr. Swearingen made the motion to accept the ALJ recommendation to deny the license. The motion was seconded by Ms. Davis and unanimously approved by the Board. Mr. McEwen indicated that the applicant was eligible to reapply.

Mr. McEwen reported that a Final Order would be sent to each of these nine individuals based on the Board's decision in these matters.

Mr. Warren commented on the proposed changes to the Board's statute, which were discussed by the Board at its last meeting. He recommended that the Board defer proposing changes during the 2018 Legislative Session. He recommended that a Legislative Committee be created to recommend changes to the Board for the 2018 Legislative Session. Mr. Murphy appointed a Committee comprised of the Board's legal counsel, Executive Director, Board investigator, Ms. Ortel and Board Chair (Mr. Murphy).

Mr. Warren presented the Administrative Services contract for renewal by the Board. He indicated that this was the 5<sup>th</sup> and final renewal period for the current contract. He recommended that new contract specifications include risk management insurance coverage for the administrative services contractor, and that these specifications for the new contract would be presented to the Board for approval. The Board noted in their discussion the recent audit report citing no deficiencies, the number of licensees of the Board, the increase in the number of staff at Warren & Company, and services provided. Mr. Swearingen made the motion to approve the annual renewal of the Administrative Services contract with Warren & Company, with an increase of 5% effective August 1, 2017. The motion was seconded by Ms. Ortel and unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. McEwen reported that the Board had received an inquiry, as a basis of a complaint concerning seals and insignias. Mr. McEwen commented that the matter would best be addressed through a consumer complaint and indicated that the staff would proceed accordingly in addressing this matter.

Mr. McEwen recommended that the matter of forcible restraints be removed from the agenda at this time.

Mr. Murphy announced that the next meeting of the Board is scheduled August 10, 2017.

There was no further business and Ms. Ortel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Davis and Mr. Murphy adjourned the meeting at 2:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Murphy

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Keith E. Warren
Executive Director

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